

Phase I Remedial Investigation Pasco Landfill Pasco, Washington

Volume V - Public Participation Plan

November 1992

Prepared for:

Pasco Landfill PLP Group

Project 624419

Prepared by:

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ABSTRACT

The Phase I Remedial Investigation Work Plan for the Pasco Landfill in Pasco, Washington describes the various steps or phases essential to the investigation process and defines the activities that will be conducted during this investigation. This Phase I Remedial Investigation will be completed under an Agreed Order with the Washington Department of Ecology (Order No. DE92TC-E105) and in compliance with the Model Toxics Control Act (Chapter 70.105D RCW and Chapter 173-340 WAC). Because the Pasco Landfill site is on the National Priority List, the Phase I Remedial Investigation will also be conducted in a manner consistent with the National Contingency Plan (40 CFR Part 300).

The objective of this investigation is to gain additional information on the nature and extent of contamination in the air, soil, and groundwater near potential contaminant sources at the Pasco Landfill. A Preliminary Risk Assessment will also be completed. This Work Plan describes the various steps proposed for gathering the necessary site characterization information and data and for performing the Preliminary Risk Assessment.

As part of the Work Plan (Volume I), a Sampling and Analysis Plan (Volume II), a Data Management Plan (Volume III), a Health and Safety Plan (Volume IV), and a Public Participation Plan (Volume V) have been developed for the performance of this project. Completion of the work defined in these planning documents will be followed by a Phase II Remedial Investigation (if necessary) and a Feasibility Study. The Washington Department of Ecology will ascertain the need for additional remedial investigation activities and the scope of the Feasibility Study based on the findings from the Phase I Remedial Investigation. Following the Feasibility Study, any need for remedial action will be determined by the Washington Department of Ecology.

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1 <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

The purpose of this plan is to continue and expand upon the public participation activities previously started by the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) for the upcoming investigation of the Pasco Landfill site near Pasco, Washington.

The plan will initially support Phase I of the Remedial Investigation (RI) and provide opportunities for Ecology and the Potentially Liable Party (PLP) Group to learn more about public knowledge and opinion of the site. It is a dynamic document that will grow and change as the investigation of the site proceeds. Further, it will outline methods to obtain and integrate public comments into the investigation and remediation programs.

Ecology is responsible for public participation at the site while the PLP Group will assist with its coordination and implementation. Both parties are committed to providing public participation opportunities throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

2 SITUATION ANALYSIS

An overview of the site and public health and environmental issues is presented in this section.

2.1 Overview of Site

The Pasco Sanitary Landfill is located approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the City of Pasco, Washington, in the southwest quarter of Section 15, and the northwest quarter of Section 22, Township 9 North, Range 30 East, Willamette Meridian, in Franklin County, Washington. The landfill occupies a 250-acre site consisting of gently rolling hills surrounded by rangeland and irrigated cropland. The site is currently operated as a sanitary landfill and accepts municipal solid waste from the Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, and Adams Counties. A permit application is pending before the Benton-Franklin Health District for a new, lined landfill cell on the Northern-most portion of the site.

Throughout the site history, waste handling and placement were implemented in conformance with regulations and permits in effect at the time of the various operations. The Pasco Landfill began operation in 1958. The landfill was operated by John Dietrich, doing business as Pasco Garbage Service from 1958 to 1971, in conformance with accepted practices as an open burning facility. With the exception of yard waste and brush burning, which was halted in mid-1992, all burning was halted in 1971 and the site was converted into a sanitary landfill.

In the early 1970s, Chemical Processors, Inc., ascertained the need for an industrial waste disposal facility. Chemical Processors, Inc., examined several sites in eastern Washington. Mr. John Dietrich, dba Basin Disposal, Inc., and Chemical Processors, Inc., then formed Resource Recovery Corporation (RRC) for the purpose of utilizing the Pasco Landfill site for an industrial waste disposal facility. A plan of operations was developed by RRC and

submitted to the Franklin County Health Department and Ecology. Following review of the plan for the industrial disposal facility, Ecology approved the plan of operation and issued an industrial waste discharge permit to RRC. The industrial part of the site was operated from late 1972 through 1974 and accepted primarily bulk sludges and drummed wastes. Industrial wastes were segregated into five zones at the facility.

In 1973, in response to concerns from the agricultural community, Ecology undertook an independent investigation of the RRC facility. In 1974, the landfill began accepting septic wastes for open pit evaporation and disposal, a practice which was discontinued in 1989. The industrial part of the facility was closed in early 1975.

Monitoring by Ecology in 1975 after closure of the industrial portion of the facility revealed no air, soil, or groundwater contamination with herbicides 2,4-D or 2,4,5-T. Subsequently, in 1979, Ecology relieved RRC of the obligation to perform additional soil and air sampling. Ecology later sampled groundwater in the vicinity. No contaminants were found.

In 1981, Pasco Sanitary Landfill, Inc., now owned by Larry Dietrich, took over as owner and operator of the facility. Beginning in 1982, groundwater monitoring wells were installed by JUB Engineers under an Order from Ecology. Those wells, in addition to wells installed after 1982 to monitor the landfill, have been sampled regularly in accordance with applicable state regulations and the landfill permit.

As part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) nationwide dioxin investigation, the site was investigated in 1984. This site was included because of known pesticide wastes buried there. No dioxin contamination or other organic contaminants were identified in the water at the site at that time. Ecology and Environment, Inc., (E&E) performed another site investigation in 1985. Their report (E&E, 1986) was completed in June 1986 and identified several volatile organic compounds present in groundwater at three monitoring wells. They concluded that trace amounts of contaminants may have migrated outside of several burial zones. The report states: "Ground water contamination by organics occurred only beneath or adjacent to the former municipal disposal and burn area..."

On June 1988, the USEPA published amendments to the National Priorities List (NPL) that included the Pasco Landfill as a proposed Superfund site. The site was formally included on the NPL list in February 1990.

Ecology has been established as the lead agency to determine the extent of contamination and what needs to be done to clean it up. Ecology has identified numerous companies and individuals as potentially liable parties (PLPs). Of these, 29 are actively working together to evaluate the extent of contamination. Ecology and the PLP Group have signed an Agreed Order to perform the Phase I Remedial Investigation (RI).

The Phase I RI may provide the information needed to consider remedial options. Alternatively, a Phase II RI may be needed. The information gathered through the Phase I RI (and Phase II, if completed) will be used in the Feasibility Study (FS) process. The FS analyzes various alternative remedies for the site.

2.2 Public Health and Environmental Issues

Residents have not recently expressed concerns to local, state, or federal agencies regarding the site and there is currently no evidence of human exposure to on-site contaminants. However, there are indications that exposure is possible if contaminants are present in the surface soil or the on-site drinking water well, or if contaminants migrate off site to drinking water wells. Federal and state authorities have determined there is no imminent hazard to human health and the environment at the site. However, if the investigation determines otherwise, immediate steps will be taken by the PLP Group to mitigate or stop such exposure.

3 COMMUNITY PROFILE

This section includes a preliminary overview of Pasco and its surrounding communities. The profile is based on information from the Greater Pasco Area Chamber of Commerce, Hanford Environmental Health Foundation, Inc., Tri-City Industrial Development Council (TRIDEC) and the Parks and Recreation Commission. Population statistics were obtained from 1990 U.S. Bureau of the Census data and U.S. Department of Commerce and Economics statistical abstracts.

3.1 Location

Pasco, the seat of Franklin County, is located at the confluence of the Columbia, Yakima, and Snake Rivers in southeastern Washington. Pasco and its neighboring communities, Richland and Kennewick, are referred to as the Tri-Cities. This area is a high technology research and production center, a major chemical producer, and an agricultural hub.

3.2 Population

According to 1990 U.S. Census data, the total population within Pasco city limits is 20,337. The Greater Pasco community population is 37,473. Children under 18 years of age comprise 34 percent of the population, while elderly (65 years and over) represent 11 percent of Pasco's population.

Pasco has a large immigrant population, with 22 percent of its residents born in foreign countries. Between 1980 and 1990, 13 percent of Pasco's residents entered the United States. The community is predominately Caucasian, but 40 percent of the population is Hispanic.

Fifty-eight percent of Pasco residents (25 years of age and over) have graduated from high school. A bachelor's or higher degree has been attained by nine percent of the Pasco population.

Pasco is growing rapidly, causing residents to move beyond the city limits. Several suburbs and businesses are developing on the outskirts of the city. However, the 1990 U.S. Census indicates that only two percent of the population resides in rural areas.

3.3 Industry

Retail trade is the largest Tri-Cities industry. Agriculture, forestry, and fishing comprise the second largest industry sector in Franklin County. Agriculture is especially prominent in Pasco and largely supports this community's economy. The agricultural area surrounding the Tri-Cities includes more than 900,000 irrigated acres. Wheat, potatoes, alfalfa, apples, strawberries, asparagus, and corn are among the largest crops produced in Franklin County. Successful grape vineyards are fostering growth for the local wine industry.

Pasco is at the southern tip of the Columbia Basin Irrigation project, which channels water via canals from reservoirs formed by the Grand Coulee Dam. Approximately 160,000 acres in Franklin County are irrigated by the Basin project. Other area rivers and deep wells also supply water to the region.

Although agriculture is prominent, Pasco has a diverse industrial community as well. The Greater Pasco Area Chamber of Commerce, the Port of Pasco, and TRIDEC promote commercial and industrial growth in the community. The Pasco Processing Center (PPC) is a 250-acre industrial development by the Port of Pasco designed to provide a strategic location for new industries. Major Pasco employers include Westinghouse Hanford Company, Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories, Kaiser Engineering, Advanced Nuclear Fuels, Burlington Northern, Chevron Chemicals, Green Giant, and Iowa Beef Processors. Pasco also supplies the Columbia Basin with agricultural chemicals and farm equipment.

The agricultural and industrial sectors exist harmoniously in Pasco. According to the Greater Pasco Area Chamber of Commerce, chemical industries abide by strict regulations that carefully monitor any risk of leakage and spills in an effort to protect nearby farms. Both the agricultural and industrial sectors are regulated by environmental acts and guidelines, which help prevent interference in each other's livelihood. There have been no known major conflicts between farmers and industries in Pasco. In fact, both sectors are promoted through events such as the Mid-Columbia Farm Forum and Ag Show, and the Columbia Basin Products Industrial Exposition.

3.4 Activities

Outdoor activities are common in the Tri-Cities due to the favorable, mild climate. Water sports, such as water-skiing, fishing, and wind surfing, are popular on the three rivers bordering Pasco. Plentiful wildlife in the region includes deer, elk, rattlesnakes, birds, Canadian geese, Chinese pheasants, quail, chukars, Chinook salmon, trout, and bass. Outdoor recreational areas near Pasco include Sacajawea State Park, McNary National Wildlife Refuge, Juniper Forest, and Palouse Falls.

4 PUBLIC ATTITUDES/COMMUNITY CONCERNS

The following concerns and attitudes are based on phone calls to several Pasco organizations and businesses. Questions did not directly address the Pasco Sanitary Landfill, but focused on general environmental information. Preliminary assessment of community concerns include the following.

- <u>Limited environmental activism</u>: The current level of public activism and awareness about the site is low. Two environmental organizations in the Tri-Cities are active: the Audubon Society and the Environmental Network.
- Many residents are accustomed to living near hazardous substance areas: The Tri-Cities community is located within five miles of the Department of Energy's Hanford Site, a former nuclear materials producer and current USEPA Superfund site. Although the nuclear section of the site is closed for cleanup, the site still generates electrical power for the Pacific Northwest. The majority of the residents understand the need to keep the Hanford Site functioning and are knowledgeable about the cleanup as well. In addition to the Hanford Site, there are several chemical companies along the Columbia River, which runs through the Tri-Cities.
- Agricultural concerns: Although agriculture and industry co-exist, there is always concern for potential crop damage from chemical contamination. In 1973, county residents complained about the potential effects of herbicide 2,4-D, which was disposed of at the Pasco Landfill. Leakage was not found, but some farmers still thought it contributed to crop damage. The public attention led the landfill operators to stop accepting the herbicide. There also is concern for the "downwind farmers," who may be affected by the nuclear contaminants in the air from the Hanford Site.
- Public health concerns: If the site is left uncontrolled, it may pose a future health concern because of the potential for toxic substances to migrate through the groundwater to wells used as a source for drinking water. (Reference: Preliminary Health Assessment by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR); 1990).

5 TARGET AUDIENCES

Communication strategies outlined in this plan are designed to reach the following target audiences:

- residents of Pasco and the surrounding area;
- the agricultural community surrounding the site;
- social service agencies serving migrant populations (communications to migrant populations may need to be prepared in Spanish and other languages);
- the PLP Group;
- elected officials from the City of Pasco and Franklin County, including the Franklin County Commissioners and the Franklin County Solid Waste Advisory Committee;
- local and regional news media;
- business/economic development associations (Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, etc.);
- environmental organizations;
- regulatory agencies (health department, etc.);
- business, industry, and civic leaders;
- local and state representatives; and
- the general public.

6 COMMUNICATION GOALS

The following list outlines the communication goals set out for this project.

- 1. Communicate Ecology's and the PLP Group's priorities for studying the site, including protecting human health and the environment, meeting current regulatory standards at the landfill, and addressing site contamination.
- 2. Inform the public about the site, existing environmental problems, and potential solutions.
- 3. Obtain community input and integrate ideas and concerns in solution options.
- 4. Enlist public support for implementing the preferred cleanup solution.
- 5. Ensure open communication with Ecology, the PLP Group, and the general public during all stages of the remedial investigation.

7 **STRATEGIES**

The strategies and action plans outlined below present a range of communications activities that are designed to help Ecology and the PLP Group meet its public involvement goals. Public participation requirements under MTCA, which are consistent with the federal CERCLA (known as Superfund) program, have been incorporated into this plan. The level of public participation activities outlined in this plan that are beyond those required under the MTCA regulations will be implemented on an as-needed basis as determined by Ecology after consultation and coordination with the PLP Group.

I. Launch a proactive public information campaign to communicate with residents about the Agreed Order, RI, and potential health and environmental risks.

Action Plans for Issuing Public Notices

1. Hold Public Comment Periods

Public comment periods allow residents an official time period to comment on aspects of the Phase I investigation. A public comment period began July 6 and ended August 4, 1992, for the draft Agreed Order. Additional public comment periods will be initiated if significant changes in the Phase I work scope are proposed. All public comment periods will last for a minimum of 30 days. Fact sheets (discussed below) will precede all public comment periods and will provide the name, address, and phone number of the Ecology contact.

A Record of Public Notice (Appendix A) will be completed by Ecology for each public comment period.

2. Conduct Public Meetings or Open Houses

If 10 or more people request a meeting, Ecology will join PLP representatives and environmental consultants to present information about the study of the site at community meetings or open houses. These will give residents an opportunity to ask questions, discuss concerns, and provide written and verbal comments to Ecology.

3. Prepare and Distribute Fact Sheets

Ecology will distribute fact sheets as needed to communicate with local residents and farmers about the status of the study and related issues. The PLP Group will help prepare and review the fact sheets. The fact sheets and any other materials slated for general distribution will be provided to everyone on the mailing list (Appendix B) and the media list (Appendix C).

4. Advertise Public Comment Periods and Other Public Participation Activities

Ecology will advertise all public involvement opportunities in the local newspaper, the Tri-City Herald, and Ecology's Site Register.

5. <u>Distribute Information Through the Repositories</u>

Information related to the Pasco Landfill will be made available to interested residents through information repositories, including:

- Department of Ecology
 Eastern Regional office
 N. 4601 Monroe, Suite 100
 Spokane, WA 99205-1295
- Mid-Columbia Library
 Pasco Branch
 1320 West Hopkins Street
 Pasco, WA 99301-5097

6. Prepare Public Information Materials

Brochures, flyers and briefing kits can be prepared to help explain site-related issues, including possible health effects, the history of the site and how the study process works.

7. Revise Public Participation Plan

The Public Participation Plan will be updated on an as-needed basis. Revisions to the plan may be necessary if public interest or concern increases over current levels, or if Ecology or the PLP Group determines that the existing plan is insufficient. All amendments must be approved by Ecology. The format for presenting revisions will follow Ecology guidance (Appendix D).

II. Educate key media about the Agreed Order, Phase I Remedial Investigation, and potential environmental and health risks.

Action Plans

1. <u>Distribute Fact Sheets</u>

A fact sheet on the draft Agreed Order was issued on July 2, 1992. Additional fact sheets will be issued on an as-needed basis.

2. <u>Distribute News Releases</u>

Ecology will prepare and distribute news releases after consultation and coordination with the PLP Group.

APPENDIX A

Record of Public Notice

Draft Ecology Public Participation Plan Guidance Boilerplate, October 24, 1991 Source:

Approximate attendance:

Notes and comments:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN - APPENDIX [letter]

RECORD OF PUBLIC NOTICE

[optional] Date: [month/day/year] For [name of site] Site Record prepared by [name] Comment Period Public Notice and Comment Period for: (identify the phase of the project or document(s) for which public comment is sought] Issued on: [month/day/year] Comment period started: [month/day/year] Comment period ended: [month/day/year] Notice Distribution B. Date mailed: [month/day/year] Method used to mail or distribute to affected vicinity: [describe the methods used] Mailed to: [] Mailing list for site on [month/day/year] [] Newspaper(s) on [month/day/year] [] Affected vicinity [month/day/year] [] Other, describe [description and month/day/year] Notes and comments about distribution: [describe] Public Meeting/Hearing [] Required [] Not required but held [] Hearing [] Meeting Held at (location): On (date):

[attach a copy of the display ad or other notice]

D. Other Public Involvement Activities During Comment Period: [describe]

APPENDIX B

Site Mailing List

Source: Washington Department of Ecology, September 1992

APPENDIX C

Media List

TRI-CITIES MEDIA LIST

Radio

KEWY-FM

3900 West Clearwater, Suite #111 Kennewick, WA 99336-2676 Program Director/Public Affairs Director: Jim Swartz

KTCR-AM/KOTY-FM

830 North Columbia Center Blvd., #B-2 Kennewick, WA 99336 509-783-0783 FAX: 509-783-8627 Program Director: Kirby Gallant News Director: Kirk Williamson

KOLU-FM

4921 West Wernett Street Pasco, WA 99301-2322 509-547-2062 Contact: Kent Gunnison

KALE-AM/KIOK-FM

310 West Kennewick Avenue Kennewick, WA 99336 509-586-2151 News Director: Jolynn Winter Program Director: Greg Kronlund

KONA-AM/FM

2823 West Lewis Pasco, WA 99301 509-547-1618 Program Director: Kent

Program Director: Kent Wellborn Public Affairs Director: Judy West

KORD-AM/FM

2621 West A Street Pasco, WA 99301-4702 509-547-9791

Program Director: Chris Kelly News Director: Jeff Turnbow

Television

KNDU-TV

3312 West Kennewick Avenue Kennewick, WA 99336 509-783-6151

FAX: 509-783-3746

Program Director: Rita Lockhart

KVEW-TV 601 North Edison Kennewick, WA 99336 509-735-8369

News Director: Thom Spencer

KEPR-TV 2807 West Lewis Pasco, WA 99301 509-547-0547 News Director: Jim Hall

News Director: Jim Hall Program Director: Stu Seibal

Public Affairs Director: Bernadette Blair

Newspapers

Tri-City Herald (Daily) 107 North Cascade Street Kennewick, WA 99336 509-582-1500

Managing Editor: Ken Robinston Environmental Reporter: John Stang

Reporter: Laurie Williams

APPENDIX D

Format for Updates to Public Participation Plan

Draft Ecology Public Participation Plan Guidance Boilerplate, October 24, 1991 Source:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN - APPENDIX [letter]

UPDATE TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Date: [month/day/year]

Reason for updating:

- [] New information is available, a greater/smaller scope of contamination problem than originally thought.
- [] Public's concerns have increased/decreased significantly.
- [] New information is available indicating greater/smaller risks to human health and the environment than originally thought.
- [] Cleanup Plan has changed significantly.
- [] The action will enter a new phase.
- [] Other (describe): [describe other reasons for updating plan]

Describe the new information or change in site status or public concern:

Describe the changes to the public participation activities. (Example: increase area receiving notices; southern boundary will now be Fifth Avenue.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Prepared by: [name]

Note: major changes in public participation plan activities requires rewriting the plan.

APPENDIX E

Glossary

Draft Ecology Public Participation Plan Guidance Boilerplate, October 24, 1991 Source:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN - APPENDIX [letter]

GLOSSARY

Agreed order: A legal document, issued by Ecology, which formalizes an agreement between Ecology and the potentially liable persons for the actions needed at a site. An agreed order may be used for all remedial actions except for non-routine cleanup actions and interim actions that constitute a substantial majority of a cleanup action likely to be selected. Since an agreed order is not a settlement, an agreed order shall not provide for mixed funding, a covenant not to sue, or protection from claims for contribution. An agreed order means that the potentially liable person agrees to perform remedial actions at the site in accordance with the provisions of the agreed order and that Ecology will not take additional enforcement action against the potentially liable person to require those remedial actions specified in the agreed order so long as the potentially liable person complies with the provisions of the order. Agreed orders are subject to public comment. If an order substantially changes, an additional public comment period is provided.

Applicable state and federal laws: All legally applicable requirements and those requirements that Ecology determines are relevant and appropriate requirements.

Area background: The concentrations of hazardous substances that are consistently present in the environment in the vicinity of a site which are the result of human activities unrelated to releases from that site.

Carcinogen: Any substance or agent that produces or tends to produce cancer in humans.

Chronic toxicity: The ability of a hazardous substance to cause injury or death to an organism resulting from repeated or constant exposure to the hazardous substance over an extended period of time.

Cleanup: The implementation of a cleanup action or interim action.

Cleanup action: Any remedial action, except interim actions, taken at a site to eliminate, render less toxic, stabilize, contain, immobilize, isolate, treat, destroy, or remove a hazardous substance that complies with cleanup levels; utilizes permanent solutions to the maximum extent practicable; and includes adequate monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of the cleanup action.

Exposure Pathway: The path a hazardous substance takes or could take from a source to an exposed organism. An exposure pathway describes the mechanism by which an individual or population is exposed or has the potential to be exposed to hazardous substances at or originating from a site.

Facility: Any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly-owned treatment works), well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, vessel, or aircraft; or any site or area where a hazardous substance, other than a consumer product in consumer use, has been deposited, stored, disposed or, or placed, or otherwise come to be located.

Feasibility study: Provides identification and analysis of site cleanup alternatives, and is usually completed within a year. The entire RI/FS process takes about two years and is followed by the cleanup action plan. remedial action to evaluate sufficient information regarding a site to enable the selection of a cleanup action plan.

Free product: A hazardous substance that is present as a nonaqueous phase liquid (that is, liquid not dissolved in water).

Ground water: Water in a saturated zone beneath the surface of land or below a surface water.

Hazardous site list: A list of ranked sites that require further remedial action. These sites are published in the <u>Site Register</u>.

Hazardous substance: Any dangerous or extremely hazardous waste as defined in RCW 70.105.010 (5) [any discarded, useless, unwanted, or abandoned substances including, but not limited to. certain pesticides, or any residues or containers of such substances which are disposed of in such quantity or concentration as to pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, wildlife, or the environment because such wastes or constituents or combinations of such wastes: (a) have short-lived, toxic properties that may cause death, injury, or illness or have mutagenic, teratogenic, or carcinogenic properties; or (b) are corrosive, explosive, flammable, or may generate pressure through decomposition or other means.] and (6) [any dangerous waste which (a) will persist in a hazardous form for several years or more at a disposal site and which in its persistent form presents a significant environmental hazardous and may be concentrated by living organisms through a food chain or may affect the genetic makeup of man or wildlife; and is highly toxic to man or wildlife: (b) if disposed of at a disposal site in such quantities as would present an extreme hazard to man or the environment.], or any dangerous or extremely dangerous

Owner or operator: Any person with any ownership interest in the facility or who exercises any control over the facility; or in the case of an abandoned facility, any person who had owned or operated or exercised control over the facility any time before its abandonment.

Potentially liable person (PLP): Any person whom Ecology finds, based on credible evidence, to be liable under authority of RCW 70.105D.040

Public notice: At a minimum, adequate notice mailed to all persons who have made a timely request of Ecology and to persons residing in the potentially affected vicinity of the proposed action; mailed to appropriate news media; published in the local (city or county) newspaper of largest circulation; and opportunity for interested persons to comment.

Public participation plan: A plan prepared under the authority of WAC 173-340-600 to encourage coordinated and effective public involvement tailored to the public's needs at a particular sita.

Recovery by-products: Any hazardous substance, water, sludge, or other materials collected in the free product removal process in response to a release from an underground storage tank.

Release: Any intentional or unintentional entry of any hazardous substance into the environment, including, but not limited to, the abandonment or disposal of containers of hazardous substances.

Remedial action: Any action to identify, eliminate, or minimize any threat posed by hazardous substances to human health or the environment, including any investigative and monitoring activities of any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance, and any health assessments or health effects studies conducted in order to determine the risk or potential risk to human health.

Remedial investigation: Any remedial action which provides information on the extent and magnitude of contamination at a site. This usually takes 12 to 18 months and is followed by the feasibility study. The purpose of the remedial investigation/feasibility study is to collect and develop sufficient information regarding a site to enable the selection of a cleanup action.

Responsiveness summary: A compilation of all questions and comments to a document open for public comment and their respective answers/replies by Ecology. The responsiveness summary is mailed, at a minimum, to those who provided comments and its availability is published in the <u>Site Register</u>.

Risk: The probability that a hazardous substance, when released into the environment, will cause an adverse effect in exposed humans or other living organisms.

Sensitive environment: An area of particular environmental value, where a release could pose a greater threat than in other areas including: wetlands; critical habitat for endangered or threatened species; national or state wildlife refuge; critical habitat, breeding or feeding area for fish or shellfish; wild or scenic river; rookery; riparian area; big game winter range.

Site: The same as facility (see above).

Site characterization report: A written report describing the site and nature of a release from an underground storage tank, as described in WAC 173-340-450 (4)(b).

Site hazard assessment (SHA): An assessment to gather information about a site to confirm whether a release has occurred and to enable Ecology to evaluate the relative potential hazard posed by the release. If further action is needed, an RI/FS is undertaken. 173-340-320.

**Site Register: Publication issued every two weeks of major activities conducted statewide related to the study and cleanup of hazardous waste sites under the Model Toxics Control Act. To receive this publication, please call (206) 438-3081.

Surface water: Lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, salt waters, and all other surface waters and water courses within the state of Washington or under the jurisdiction of the state of Washington.

SWRO: Ecology Southwest Regional Office in Tumwater.

TCP: Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program.

Underground storage tank (UST): An underground storage tank and connected underground piping as defined in the rules adopted under Chapter 90.76 RCW.

Washington Ranking Method (WARM): Method used to rank sites placed on the hazardous sites list. A report describing this method is available from Ecology.